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Previous salary** Salary after 1 January 1950**

1 overseer for the warehouses (Lagerverwalter)	246.00	228.00
1 steward (Hausverwalter)		
1 night watchman		200.00
1 female helper		

29 wage earners:

Wages

1 "Vorschlosser"
1 locksmith
1 smithy
3 tractor locksmiths
1 truck driver for the Russian truck
2 brigade leaders

15 percent more than the average hourly wage of the eight tractor drivers in their brigade

16 tractor drivers (Traktoristen)

.96 DM per hour, though they are supposed to receive 1.44 DM.

1 cook

.75 DM per hour, which she must take from the money received for the warm lunches served ***

3 apprentices

3. In April-May 1949, when the MAS were first assigned the task of the political and cultural education (Betreuung) of the agricultural population, the office of culture director (Kulturleiter) was instituted in the various MAS. The relationship between the director and the culture director in each MAS was not sharply delineated, and originally the culture directors, relying only on the SED for their direction, acted completely independently of the other MAS officials. Later the culture directors were made deputy directors of the various MAS and consequently came under the authority of the MAS directors. However, in practice, the culture directors, being the trusted agents of the SED, have power independent of that of the MAS directors, and there is constant friction between the two. Typical of the culture directors is the one in MAS Niemberg, 26-year old Heinz Hönick, a member of the FDJ and former Antifa pupil in the USSR. These culture directors, who are required to have attended a special course in an SED school, have little understanding of the people with whom they are dealing and consequently have attained little success in their objectives.

4. MAS and SED. The MAS's political and cultural work is, in practice, directed by the SED, which also has a decisive voice on all personnel questions. SED officials dealing with the Niemberg MAS affairs are as follows:

Saxony-Anhalt SED Landesvorstand

Krebs

Dippel

Saalkreis SED Kreisvorstand

Gen. Witt

Klinz

Wagenbrett -- personnel

Donsche -- agricultural officer; Antifa pupil from the USSR; successor of General Mayevski, who is at present business manager of the Saalkreis VVEAD (Union of People-owned Procuring and Purchasing Firms) but is still active in the SED Kreisvorstand.

5. All the functionaries in the MAS Land office for Saxony-Anhalt are SED members with the exception of the head of the finance division, Kämpfe, an LDP member.

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who however offers no resistance to the SED line. This Land office, which directs 159 MAS, has its offices in Halle at Franckestrasse 8.

Director	Siegmund
Culture Director	Lindner
Personnel	Gladies
Planning	Flieger
Technical	Ludwig

6. Likewise all the MAS directors and culture directors are members of the SED, and approval of the appropriate SED Landesvorstand and Kreisvorstand is necessary before these MAS officers can be hired or fired. The MAS leaders must make a monthly report to the SED Kreisvorstand in addition to their monthly report to the MAS Land office. The culture directors are members of the larger (erweiterte) SED Kreisvorstand and attend its weekly meetings. In addition, the SED Kreisvorstand in Saalkreis has instituted monthly meetings which are attended by the SED agricultural officer, who acts as chairman, the directors and culture directors of the five MAS in the Kreis, the SED agent (Vertrauensmann) in the Saalkreis government (General Preudenthaler or Meissner), the Kreis secretary of the VdGB (Farmer's Mutual Aid Union) (General Grasemann), and the Saalkreis Kommandantur (Captain Stanov). At these meetings each MAS director must make a report, and the SED directives concerning the MAS are issued.
7. Another instrument of SED control over the MAS are the SED shop groups (Betriebsgruppen) in the various MAS. Members of these groups must adhere strictly to the party line and follow instructions issued by the party at the shop groups' weekly meetings, at which resolutions are introduced, tasks assigned, and committees appointed. Members of the SED Kreisvorstand occasionally attend these meetings. The shop group chairman, who is mostly also the MAS culture director, issues directives not only to the shop group but also to the chairman of the BGL (Betriebsgewerkschaftsleitung — trade union management), who is also a member of the SED shop group.
8. SED members occupy almost all the posts in the so-called "Arbeitskollektive der Betriebsleitung" (station board of directors), the "blood of the MAS". This board of directors, which meets once a week, has undermined the co-determination rights of the tractor drivers, who supposedly have such rights as members of a people-owned firm. To this board of directors belong the following:
 - MAS director, the chairman
 - The culture director, his deputy
 - Technical director
 - Agriculturist
 - Chief bookkeeper
 - Chairman of the BGL
 - Chairman of the SED shop group
9. In order to rectify the political apathy of the MAS workers and the farmers and to strengthen party work in the country, the SED has set up in each MAS district an official instructor for all local party work. These instructors have their offices for the most part in the MAS administration buildings. Typical of these instructors is Niemberg's Werner Jany, a young, inexperienced man, former student at an Arzifa school in the USSR. He receives 380 M (presumably east marks) a month.
10. MAS and the FDGB (Free German Trade Union Federation). The Agriculture and Forestry Industrial Union, headed by General C. Siecking, and the individual MAS unions, under the Industrial union, are all poorly organized and accomplish

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little except to follow SED orders. SED control over the local MAS unions is effected by the MAS culture directors who, in addition to being chairmen of the SED shop groups, carry out the liaison between the DGL and the MAS board of directors. Furthermore the head of the MAS union is a member of the SED shop group.

12. All MAS workers are required to be members of the union, and their monthly union dues are deducted from their wages. The co-determination rights of the workers are effected through the DGL and its commissions, such as the social welfare commission, the economic commission, the work protection commission, etc. However, in practice the workers' co-determination rights are not exercised. The tractor drivers, organized into brigades with eight men and a leader, are politically apathetic; hence, they are easily influenced in trade union meetings, though in private they may declare themselves to be opposed to German-Russian friendship.
12. Although the tractor-drivers' capacity wage (Leistungslohn -- presumably wage for doing the amount of work set as a goal) is 1.44 DM per hour, in actual fact the tractor drivers receive only .96 DM per hour. The output goals are inordinately high, considering the fact that the tractors are on the average 15 years old, and the workers pay little heed to these goals. The workers are dissatisfied with their wages, which are lower than most wages in the area, and the better housing promised to them has not been forthcoming. However, a change of jobs is almost impossible, since a worker must report to the Labor Office before leaving a job and thus becomes subject to draft for mine work.
13. In order to intensify FDGB work in the country, FDGB "culture workers" were assigned to each MAS late in the fall of 1949. These officials, functionaries of the Agriculture and Forestry Industrial Union, work in conjunction with the culture directors of the MAS and of the people-owned estates for the "democratization of the country". The FDGB culture workers are for the most part former Antifa pupils in the USSR. General Nitzner holds this position in the Niemberg district. On the Land level, the FDGB Land Committee has set up an office in Halle for MAS affairs. Head of this office is General Grasemann, a member of the VVN, who receives his orders directly from the SED Land Committee.
14. MAS and VdgB (Farmers' Mutual Aid Union). Although the VdgB and the MAS are supposed to work harmoniously together, each supplementing the work of the other, in fact there is between the two a great deal of jealousy, which prevents any effective coordination of their work. The VdgB, resenting the loss of its main source of income to the MAS, turned over its machinery to the MAS in terrible condition. Monthly councils are supposed to be held, attended by representatives from the MAS and by two peasants from each of the communities under that MAS. Of the two representatives from each community, one is the chairman of the local VdgB, and the other is supposed to be a farmer with little or no property (gespannarm oder gespanntlos). These MAS-VdgB councils, which in theory help draw up work plans and control the MAS, are designed to serve as a mouthpiece for the farmers but usually no more than 10-15 percent of the members attend these meetings.
15. MAS and the Kreis Government. The Kreis government exercises legal control and supervision over the MAS. In the Saalkreis Agriculture and Forestry Division, the following persons deal with MAS affairs:

Freudenthaler --- head of the Agriculture and Forestry Division;
 member of the VVN and the SED.

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Meissner — Sachbearbeiter; interpreter for the Kommandantur; head of the fuel (Benzinstoff) section; member of the SED.

Meissner, accompanied either by Freudenthaler or Captain Stanov of the Saalkreis Kommandantur, visits each of the five MAS in Saalkreis at least twice a month. Meissner demands of the MAS statistical material in addition to the monthly report required by the MAS Land office. Meissner's requests put quite a burden on the MAS, and the MAS Land office has told the MAS directors that these supplementary reports are unnecessary. On this and other points there are considerable differences of opinion between the Kreis officials and the MAS Land office in Saxony-Anhalt.

16. Another Kreis officer with a voice in MAS affairs is the Landrat. The Kreis PIS (sic) division frequently requests statistical information from the MAS.

17. MAS and the SKK. The SKK has played a decisive role in the development of the MAS. SKK officers in Saalkreis dealing with MAS affairs are Colonel Sheikin and Captain Stanov. Since the MAS were first established, these officers have visited the stations in their area almost every week, inspecting not only the central offices, but also the branch offices, the fields, the tractors, etc. The Russians are continually attempting to increase, beyond reason, the tempo of the MAS work. Originally every week, and now every fortnight, the MAS directors in Saalkreis must make a complete report to the Saalkreis Kommandantur, and at each of these meetings the MAS is assigned new and, according to source, impossible tasks. In addition, military or civilian commissions from the Saxony-Anhalt and even the Karlshorst SKK appear at least every three weeks requiring other reports and making new demands. The MAS is thus faced with the dilemma of satisfying both SKK and SED directives.

18. Although the SKK continues to play a decisive role in the control of the MAS, the SED has gained an increasingly important voice in MAS affairs particularly through the SED district instructors and the MAS culture directors, who are members of the larger SED Kreis committees. SED directives to the MAS are outlined in the "Monthly Plans for the Culture Directors", drawn up by the Land office (presumably SED), and by the monthly work plans of the SED shop groups. Also, in addition to the VdGB, the FDGB, and the Kreis government, the FDJ (Free German Youth) and the Association for German-Soviet Friendship have recently won a voice in MAS affairs.

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* Comment: Saalkreis's capital is Halle. The five MAS in this Kreis are Niemberg (EO3), Könnern (D74), Wallwitz (D93), Schiepzig (D83), and Gröbers-Osmünde (EO2).

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** Comment: Presumably this is monthly.

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*** Comment: Law 234 requires that warm lunches be served. These cost 0.45 DM.

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